



ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A drive controller for a self-commutated converter is described. The converter has two half-bridges, and the drive controller includes a corresponding control circuit for the converter valves of each half-bridge. Each control circuit can be connected via first switches to an external voltage. Each first switch is connected in parallel with a second switch, wherein the second switches are decoupled by way of decoupling diodes. The first and second switches can be alternately switched on and off. The switches can therefore be cyclically tested without interrupting service.